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PRELIMINARY REPORT

on the

COFFIN & CASKET INDUSTRY

in

CANADA

1932

(Subject to revision on further examination of individual reports)

Published by Authority of the Hon. H.H. Stevens, M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

OTTAWA

1933

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32-D-22

NOTE: - Production figures as given in this bulletin do not necessarily represent the total output in Canada of the commodities listed, as there may be also a considerable production in other industrial groups. For complete information this bulletin must be read with the rest of the series on wood-using industries and other publications of the Census of Industry.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
FORESTRY BRANCH

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THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1931 and 1932.

Ottawa, December, 1933 - A report on the manufacture of coffins, caskets and shells or rough boxes in Canada during 1931 and 1932 has been completed by the Forestry Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There were 37 firms engaged in the manufacture of these products in 1932 and 35 in 1931. The total amount of capital invested in the industry increased from \$3,685,003 in 1931 to \$3,909,852 in 1932. The employees of all classes numbered 777 in 1932 as compared to 787 in 1931. The total payroll in 1932 was \$821,763 and in 1931 \$887,323. This industry in 1932 purchased \$20,508 worth of fuel and employed power to the amount of 1,470 horse-power. Its materials in 1932 cost \$886,830 and its total products were valued at \$2,444,673.

Out of the total of 37 factories 15 were located in Ontario, 11 in Quebec, 3 each in Nova Scotia, and British Columbia, 2 in Manitoba and one each in Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

Tables 1 and 2 give a summary of the principal statistics of this industry and the distribution of its factories by provinces.

Tables 3, 4, 5 and 6 cover capital invested, employment, fuel used and power employed during 1931 and 1932.

Table 7 gives details of the materials used in 1931 and 1932. The chief material used by the manufacturers of coffins and caskets is lumber which was purchased to the extent of 10,263 m. ft. board measure costing \$358,269. About seventy-four per cent of this lumber was softwood, used chiefly in the manufacture of rough boxes and shells. The next important items were linings and coverings for coffins and caskets. Hardware and mountings; nails, tacks and screws; paint, oil and varnish were other important materials purchased.

Table 8 gives the details of the products manufactured in 1931 and 1932. This industry in 1932 turned out over sixty-four thousand caskets valued at \$1,843,699, over eight thousand coffins at \$85,657 and over forty-seven thousand rough boxes and shells valued at \$242,883. Undertakers' supplies to the value of \$215,542 also formed a part of the products of the industry.

THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA 1931 and 1932.

Table 1. - Principal Statistics, 1931 and 1932.

Items		1931	1932
Establishments	No.	35	37
Capital Invested	\$	3,685,003	3,909,852
Employees on salaries	No.	134	158
Salaries paid	\$	257,513	266,039
Employees on wages	No.	653	619
Wages paid	\$	629,810	555,724
Fuel Used	\$	17,422	20,508
Power Employed	H.P.	2,260	1,470
Electricity purchased	K.W.H.	798,777	1,021,822
Cost of electricity purchased	\$	19,458	19,434
Cost of Materials	\$	1,102,101	886,830
Value of Products	\$	2,767,491	2,444,673

THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1931 AND 1932.

Table 2. - Distribution of Establishments by Provinces, 1931-1932.

Provinces	1 9 3 1	1 9 3 2
	No.	No.
CANADA	35	37
Prince Edward Island	1	1
Nova Scotia	2	3
New Brunswick	1	1
Quebec	10	11
Ontario	14	15
Manitoba	2	2
Saskatchewan	1	1
British Columbia	4	3

Table 3. - Capital Invested, 1931 and 1932.

Items	1 9 3 1	1 9 3 2
	\$	\$
TOTAL	3,685,003	3,909,852
Land, buildings, fixtures and machinery	1,793,068	1,922,917
Materials, stocks in process, etc.	657,786	664,480
Inventory value of finished products on hand	474,786	361,595
Cash, trading and operating accounts, etc.	759,363	960,860

Table 4. - Employment, 1931 and 1932.

Classes of Employees	Total No. of Employees		Males		Females		Total Salaries and Wages	
	1931	1932	1931	1932	1931	1932	1931	1932
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	\$	\$
TOTAL	787	777	671	646	116	131	887,323	821,763
Salaried employees	134	158	108	127	26	31	257,513	266,039
Employees on wages	653	619	563	519	90	100	629,810	555,724

Table 5. - Fuel Used, 1931 and 1932.

Kind of Fuel		Quantity		Value	
		1931	1932	1931	1932
				\$	\$
TOTAL		-	-	17,422	20,508
Bituminous coal, Canadian	Tons	1,039	1,223	4,622	5,247
" " Imported	"	984	1,488	7,165	9,597
Anthracite coal	"	70	54	657	505
Lignite coal Canadian	"	15	18	150	177
Coke	"	19	-	190	-
Gasoline	Gal.	240	360	72	94
Kerosene	"	90	90	15	15
Fuel Oil	"	4,008	-	477	-
Wood	Cord	332	1,286	2,367	3,954
Gas - Manufactured	M cu.ft.	1,103	712	1,190	724
Natural	" " "	322	-	201	-
Other fuel	-	-	-	316	195

Table 6. - Power Employed, 1931 and 1932.

Power Units	Number of Units		Total Horse-power	
	1931	1932	1931	1932
Total Power Employed	167	96	2,260	1,470
Stationary Engines: -				
Steam	5	7	375	417
Oil, gas and gasoline	4	4	38	38
Hydraulic turbines and waterwheels	1	-	5	-
Electric motors:-				
(a) Purchased power	157	85	1,842	1,015
(b) Operated by power generated by the establishment	-	-	-	-
Boilers installed	27	17	1,273	1,085

Table 7. - Materials Used, 1931 and 1932.

Materials		Quantity		Value	
		1931	1932	1931	1932
TOTAL		-	-	\$ 1,102,101	\$ 886,830
Lumber or logs, softwood	M ft.b.m.	7,776	7,615	228,035	215,314
Lumber or logs, hardwood	" b.m.	2,407	2,648	194,312	142,955
Bolts, etc., softwood	Cord	-	-	-	-
Veneer and plywood	M. surf.ft.	574	-	28,721	-
All other materials	Value only	-	-	651,033	528,561

Table 8. - Products Manufactured, 1931 and 1932.

Products	Quantity		Value	
	1931	1932	1931	1932
	No.	No.	\$	\$
TOTAL	124,288	120,848	2,767,491	2,444,673
Caskets	67,282	64,777	2,113,319	1,843,699
Coffins	8,509	8,775	84,538	85,657
Shells or rough boxes	48,497	47,296	254,584	242,883
Other undertakers' supplies	-	-	272,652	215,542
Secondary Products --				
Sash, doors and other millwork, moulding, hardwood flooring, furniture, matched and planed lumber, sanitary woodwork, box shooks, excelsior, cigar boxes, handles, cisterns, etc.	-	-	42,398	56,892

NOTE: Data given here do not necessarily represent the total Canadian production under each heading since these products are also listed under other industries.

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THE COFFIN AND CASKET INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1931 AND 1932.

Coffins and caskets were the principal products of the following firms in 1932.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Montague Furnishing Co., Ltd.

Montague

NOVA SCOTIA

Cameron & Fraser, Ltd.

Townsend Ave., P.O. Box 1124, New
Glasgow

Dominion Manufacturers, Ltd.

Albion St., Amherst

Snow & Co., Ltd.

H.O., 90 Argyle St., Halifax - 7 Seymour
St., Halifax.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Tuttle Bros., Ltd.

171 Lutz St., Moncton

QUEBEC

Angers, Jos. R.

5 rue St. Pierre, St. Raymond

Beaudoin, E.A.

94 Sacre Coeur Bl'v'd., Hull

Bishop, S.N. Casket Co.

Bishopton

Descoteaux, C.E.

Pierreville

Dominion Manufacturers, Ltd.

Bellefeuille St., Trois Rivieres

Dube, Xavier & Fils

St.-Jean Port Joli

Emond, Moise

139 rue Kent, Hull

Godue Casket Mfg. Co., Ltd.

Maple St., Sutton

La Manufacture de Cerceuils et

Specialites, Ltee.

10 Ave. des Bouleaux, Montmagny

Lepine, Germain, Ltee.

283 rue St-Vallier, Quebec

Perreault, Seraphin

St-Gabriel de Brandon

ONTARIO

Central Casket Co., Ltd.

1481 Davenport Rd., Toronto, 4.

Dominion Manufacturers, Ltd.

H.O. 109 Niagara St., Toronto 2 -
Hamilton and London

Elliott Bros.

Josephine St., Prescott

Evel Casket Co. Ltd.

519 King St., Hamilton

Guelph Caskets, Ltd., (F.W.Wood)

67 Wellington St., Guelph

Harriston Casket Co., Ltd.

John St., Harriston

Mount Forest Casket Co., (A.E.Gibson)

Main St., Mount Forest

North Bay Casket Works

Wylde St., North Bay

Northern Casket Co., Ltd.

Cambridge St., Lindsay

Sterling Caskets, Ltd.

627 Adelaide St. W., Toronto 3

Stewart, A.

H.O.-189 Dalhousie St., Peterborough,-

73 Gladstone Ave., Peterborough

Stoddart, M.J. & Sons

King St., Woodville

Stratford Casket Co. Ltd.

182 King St., Stratford

MANITOBA

Dominion Manufacturers, Ltd.

Parr St. & Dufferin Ave., Winnipeg

Western Casket Co., Ltd.

Cor. Bannatyne Ave. & Emily St.,
Winnipeg

SASKATCHEWAN

North West Casket Mfg. Co. (Nap.Goulet)

Delmas

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Canada Casket Co., Ltd.

62 Fourth Ave. W., Vancouver

Dominion Manufacturers, Ltd.

291 Second Ave. E., Vancouver

Riverside Mfg. Co. Ltd.

425 2nd Avenue W., Vancouver.

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